

Region 3

Washington, DC 20407



JUN 23 1976

DD/A Registry

File Bldg + Gr 9

Mr. John F. Blake
Deputy Director for Administration
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, DC 20505

Dear Mr. Blake:

Thank you for your letter dated June 14, 1976, relative to the building located at [REDACTED]

As you know, long range plans were to transfer subject building to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; therefore, funds were not programmed to alter the building. At the time that your agency elected to utilize the [REDACTED] location, we pointed out the deficiencies of the building. Your agency was also shown space in a building meeting all safety criteria, however, the space was rejected in favor of the [REDACTED] location even though you were advised that funds were not available for upgrading the space to meet current safety requirements. It should also be pointed out that General Services Administration, at its own expense, relocated the two occupants of the building to make the space available for assignment to Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) with the understanding that CIA would fund for the necessary alterations.

Under existing procedures, there is no way that we can make adjustments to the SLUC rate to compensate your agency for the monies expended in the renovation of the building. The only consideration that we can give is to retain the present quality rating of the building and to bill your agency at the lower SLUC tier rate.

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14 JUN 1976

Mr. J. F. Galuardi
Regional Administrator
General Services Administration
Region III
7th & D Streets, S. W.
Washington, D. C. 20407

Dear Mr. Galuardi:

As you are undoubtedly aware, CIA has been designated as the executive agent to procure suitable space for the Intelligence Community Staff headquarters. Mr. Bush, Director of Central Intelligence, has chosen the building at [REDACTED] for this purpose. For the past few months, Agency representatives have been working in close coordination with the General Services Administration (GSA) in the preparation of plans for the reconfiguration of the building and to insure that it meets applicable security and safety standards.

As a result of the excellent cooperation received from GSA representatives, the plans for the renovation of the selected site are almost complete. However, several deficiencies have been discovered with respect to the Life Safety Code. I have been advised that a most serious pre-existing condition is the lack of an approved primary and alternate means of safe egress.

The Agency Safety Officer, in conjunction with our General Counsel, has advised me that, as I am the designated official under the provisions of paragraph 2 of Executive Order 11807, it is my responsibility to ensure the Agency complies with the Occupational Safety and Health Act and regulations issued pursuant thereto. Therefore, the lack of an approved alternate safe egress from the building troubles me greatly and I feel it necessary to draw your attention to this specific defect. I am sure that this deficiency will concern your agency as well, since under

the Federal Property Management Regulations GSA is responsible for providing a safe space that meets or exceeds the policy objective stated in 41 CFR 101-20.109-1.

I have been advised that the alterations necessary to meet both of our concerns fall within the provisions of 41 CFR 101-20.102. Thus the initial alterations and repairs necessary to protect building occupants would seem to fall within those responsibilities delegated to GSA. I also have been advised that such alterations would be included within the standard level of service which is included as part of the standard level user charges and would not be a reimbursable service under paragraph 41 CFR 101-20.105.

Inasmuch as I consider the correction of these defects to be of paramount importance, I have directed that all appropriate elements of the Agency be cooperative to any endeavor necessary to ensure that the design of the alternate egress is completed expeditiously. With respect to the funds necessary for construction, I suggest that CIA expenditures in this area be considered expenditures under the provisions of 41 CFR 101-21.402 and that the cost of such expenditures be offset against the Agency's standard level user charge. Since the cited paragraph requires your approval for such action, it is hereby requested. Your expeditious consideration of this request is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Signed: John F. Blake

John F. Blake
Deputy Director
for
Administration

Distribution:

Orig - Addressee
1 - OGC
2 - DDA *subj.*
1 - D/Sec

STATINTL

Acting Director of Security

4 JUN 1976

Date

Administrative - Internal Use Only

27 MAY 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Administration

FROM : [REDACTED]
Acting Director of Security

STATINTL

SUBJECT : [REDACTED]
Life Safety Code Requirements

REFERENCES : (a) Memo to D/L from D/S, dtd 29 Mar 76,
same subject
(b) Memo to DDA from D/L, dtd 13 May 76,
subject: Selective Service Building

1. For the past several weeks, representatives of the Safety Branch have been working with [REDACTED] of the Office of Logistics to insure proper planning and implementation of all necessary fire and safety requirements for the new Intelligence Community (IC) Staff Headquarters.

2. Reference (a) alerted the Director of Logistics to the necessity, as specified in the Life Safety Code, for a fairly expensive two-unit, two-hour fire-resistant stairway located as remotely from the existing stairway as possible. On 19 May [REDACTED] informed [REDACTED] Chief, Safety Branch, that Mr. James Steele, Commissioner, Public Buildings Service, GSA Region III, had stated that he, Steele, is responsible for determining the adequacy of provisions for fire and safety in such buildings. Mr. Steele is further reported as indicating that he sees no economic feasibility for constructing the second stairway in a building which is scheduled for destruction within five years. This latter information was reported to you in reference (b). According to [REDACTED] Mr. Steele considers the existing external fire escape adequate as a second means of egress from the building.

3. Subsequent to the meeting with [REDACTED] contacted Mr. Henry Humt, Chief of Accident and Fire Prevention, GSA Region III, relative to this advice from Mr. Steele.

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Mr. Huntt stated that he personally had informed Mr. Steele that the present external fire escape on this building is substandard and does not meet the requirements of the GSA Life Safety Code. [] has determined that it does not meet the requirements of any other relevant code within the District of Columbia, the Federal Government, or any which are applicable strictly within the CIA.

4. In view of the obvious dichotomy within GSA relative to this safety feature in subject building, I believe you should be aware of the responsibilities of the Agency and the possible options which may be exercised. You, as the designated Safety and Health Official, are the authority having jurisdiction within the Agency as specified in Chapter 3 of the Life Safety Code. As the authority having jurisdiction, you may exercise certain discretionary powers set out in Section 1-6111 of the Life Safety Code. This section states that if, in your opinion, fulfilling a provision of the Code would pose a practical difficulty or unnecessary hardship, then you may waive it in writing if an alternative has been established that clearly provides for the reasonable safety of the occupants of the facility. The current plans do not include the secondary required two-unit fire-protected stairway and no alternative has been provided. If Mr. Steele chooses to exercise in writing his prerogatives as interpreted by him, stating that the existing external fire escape is adequate, then you are relieved of your legal responsibility. If Mr. Steele does not assume this responsibility, then you, as the authority having jurisdiction, are responsible for providing the second means of egress or a suitable alternative. To date, the Office of Logistics and Safety Branch have been unable to devise any suitable alternative; therefore, it is recommended that the outside fire-protected stairway be constructed.

5. I realize the foregoing represents a bit of legalistic hairsplitting. However, I feel it is imperative that any final decision relative to matters of this import be made with the full understanding of the legal as well as the safety implications.

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Atts.
References

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Approved For Release 2002/11/04 : CIA-RDP79-00498A000100130013-2

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

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DD/A Registry

File *Blag & Co 9*

FROM:

[Signature]

EXTENSION

NO.

Acting Director of Security

DATE

14 June 1976

STATINTL

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1.

DD/A

7D-24 Hdqs.

14 JUN 1976

[Initials]

This has been coordinated with both OL and OGC

2.

3.

D/Security

For Hand Carry

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14 JUN 1976